

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Interagency Council on Homelessness



Notes from the Meeting of the Interagency Council of Homelessness (ICH)

Date and Time: July 20, 2010 10am-11:30am

Location: New York Ave. Presbyterian Church 1313 New York Ave, NW Washington, DC

Approximate Attendance: 93

Welcome and Introductions

Neil Albert, City Administrator, called the meeting to order and then opened the meeting for comments from the public.

Public Comment Period

- An announcement regarding a upcoming Candidates Forum on Homeless Services was announced; this forum is scheduled for Thursday, July 22 at 1030am at 1200 D St NW.
- A meeting attendee voiced his overall displeasure with the current state of homelessness in the District.

****Due to the early time of the meeting, a pre-meeting forum was not held****

ICH Committee Reports

Steering Committee-Scott McNeilly, Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless (WLCH)

- Scott McNeilly informed the group that the Steering Committee is working to ensure that all scheduled ICH committee meetings are posted on the website.

Operations and Logistics Committee- Chapman Todd, Catholic Charities

- The Operations and Logistics Committee has focused on preparing the 2010-2011 Winter Plan; a draft version for the public to view will be ready by the first week of August, and a public comment presentation has been scheduled for August 19th at 930am at N Street Village. The final draft of the 2010-2011 Winter Plan will be presented to the ICH at the September meeting.

Shelter Capacity Subcommittee-Michael Ferrell, Coalition for the Homeless

- The Shelter Capacity subcommittee continues to meet in order to monitor the year round utilization of shelter services. The group has been reviewing a District Resource Directory, and has decided to compose a one pager that lists basic shelter services which includes housing, food and public benefits. These documents will be distributed at all of the shelter facilities in the District.

Strategic Planning Committee- Kelly Sweeney-McShane, Community of Hope

- The Strategic Planning Committee is currently working on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, a couple of key items that have come up at recent meetings have included:
 - Creation of a Youth Subcommittee, this group will look at the specific needs of youth as it pertains to the Strategic Plan.
 - A funders briefing was held to inform various jurisdictions of the direction of the Strategic Action Plan.
 - The Homeless Outreach RFP was posted; there will be a total of 6 RFPS that will post within the next week. All RFPs are posted on the Office of Contracting and Procurement website: www.ocp.dc.gov.

Youth Subcommittee-Sue Marshall, The Community Partnership

- The Youth Subcommittee conducted its first meeting which consisted of providers, advocates along with DHS and DCPS representatives. Sue Marshall asked that each Director at the table designate a representative to attend these meetings. The goal of this subcommittee is to remain consistent with both the Strategic Plan and the Implementation strategy.

Permanent Supportive Housing Committee Leila Edmonds, DHCD and Kimberly Black, CSH

- The PSH Committee held its first meeting, there was good representation from developers and landlords however; there was not a great representation from the service providers. The focus of this meeting was to develop the mission of the group and how to present the information of the current and future availability of Permanent Supportive Housing units.

Overview of NY Ave Presbyterian Church

The NY Ave Presbyterian Church offers various services to the homeless of the District of Columbia which includes:

- Shelter
- Training Classes
- Bus Tokens (for those looking for employment)

Public Comment Period

- A meeting attendee wanted to applaud the District on its efforts to house veterans.
- A woman expressed her concern over the lack of shelter space in the District, and she feels that DHS should make an effort to expand the overall capacity, and add an extra floor to DC General.
- A representative from Neighbors Consejo expressed her concern regarding the lack of representation of Latinos at the ICH table.